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Foreign CROPS AND MARKETS



VOLUME 68

NUMBER 3

BARLEY and OATS (Page 19)

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

L A T E N E W S

Restrictions against imports of dried white beans into the United Kingdom from dollar areas were removed effective as of January 1, 1954, according to reports from London. White beans can now be imported into the United Kingdom from the United States and other dollar areas under a system of open individual licenses. The intention of the system is to provide a free flow of imports while at the same time permitting the Ministry to keep a check on the quantity of beans being contracted for and to reserve the right to the Ministry to reimpose restrictions. A limit, if any, on the quantity of bean imports to be allowed under this system has not been announced. The announcement does not include soya beans or beans for seeding.

Philippine copra exports during December amounted to 53,952 long tons. Shipments for the year 1953 totaled 592,267 tons or a 9 percent decrease from the 651,755 tons exported in 1952. The breakdown of the December 1953 copra exports by country of destination is as follows: United States--30,199 tons (Atlantic-2,339, Gulf-3,418, Pacific-24,442); Belgium--4,500; Denmark--6,100; Italy--4,000; the Netherlands--4,000; Norway--1,500; Europe unspecified--1,500; Lebanon--400; Colombia 739; and Venezuela--1,014 tons.

December coconut oil exports of 4,845 tons brought total shipments for 1953 to 58,589 tons against 79,463 tons in 1952 or a decrease of one-fourth. The entire December shipments of oil went to the United States (Atlantic). On a copra equivalent basis, exports of copra and coconut oil for 1953 totaled 685,265 tons, 12 percent less than 1952 exports of 777,887 tons.

The copra export price in mid-December was \$215 per short ton, c.i.f. Pacific. Local buying prices in Manila were quoted at 38 to 41 pesos per 100 kilograms (\$193.05 to \$208.29 per long ton).

FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

Published weekly to assist the foreign marketing of U. S. farm products by keeping the nation's agricultural interests informed of current crop and livestock developments abroad, foreign trends in production, prices, supplies and consumption of farm products, and other factors affecting world agricultural trade. Circulation is free to persons in the U.S. needing the information it contains.

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SECOND FORECAST CONFIRMS ABOVE-AVERAGE WORLD BARLEY AND OATS CROPS

World production of barley and oats in 1953-54 is now estimated at 129.8 million short tons, according to information available to the Foreign Agricultural Service. This is a million tons above the first estimate published in Foreign Crops and Markets, October 12, 1953 but is 2 percent less than the large 1952-53 harvest. The bulk of the increase over the first estimate is in oats, with the present estimate 45 million bushels above the October figure.

For the current season barley and oats are about evenly divided, on a tonnage basis. The barley crop of 2,730 million bushels is well above average and only slightly less than the large 1952 outturn. World oats production, estimated at 4,015 million bushels, is somewhat below the prewar average as well as smaller than the 1952 harvest.

In North America the current estimate of barley production is slightly less than the previous estimate while oats production is slightly larger. The barley total of 511 million bushels is 7 million bushels below the first estimate because of a reduction in Canada's estimate, which more than offset an increase for the United States. Oats production is now placed at 1,625 million bushels, an increase of 10 million over the earlier estimate, as a result of an increase in the United States. The total is, however, 105 million bushels less than the 1952 harvest.

Barley production in Europe is estimated at 845 million bushels, 30 million above the first estimate. The largest increase is noted for the United Kingdom, with small increases for a number of Western European countries accounting for the remainder. The oats crop is placed at 1,420 million bushels, bringing the total 15 million bushels above the 1952 production. The largest increases over the 1952 crops were in France, Italy, Sweden, and Finland, where near-record yields are reported. Outturns of these grains in Eastern Europe appear about the same as in 1952, with better yields than in 1952 offsetting reduced acreage in a number of countries.

In the Soviet Union, generally unfavorable weather for spring-sown grains appears to have caused some reduction in barley and oats harvests. Barley is predominantly and oats exclusively spring-sown in the Union. Extensive rains during the harvest period, especially during late August, were believed to have delayed harvesting in some areas, with increased crop losses probable.

The combined harvest of these grains in Asia is slightly larger than in 1952, with a small increase for barley offsetting a slight decrease for oats. Barley production for the continent is estimated at 810 million bushels compared with 800 million a year ago. The increase is attributed to expanded acreage. The current estimate is about 5 percent above the prewar average and 17 percent above the 1945-49 average. Production of oats is estimated at 105 million bushels. This is 5 percent less than in 1952 but is well above average.

HARLEY: Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries, year of harvest,
averages 1935-39 and 1945-49, annual 1951-53 1/

Continent and Country	Acreage 2/			Yield per acre 3/			Production									
	Average		1951	1952	Average		1951	1952	1953 4/	1935-39	1945-49	1951	1952	1953 4/		
	acres	acres	1,000	1,000	acres	acres	1,000	1,000	1,000	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels		
<u>NORTH AMERICA</u>																
Canada.....	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000		
Mexico.....	4,291	6,717	7,840	8,477	8,911	20.7	21.5	21.3	21.4	88,882	144,688	245,218	291,379	262,065		
United States.....	374	457	571	571	571	10.6	13.2	13.2	13.2	3,960	6,032	7,520	7,560	-		
Estimated total 5/.....	10,817	10,713	9,436	8,244	8,524	22.1	25.5	25.9	27.4	238,622	273,306	254,287	226,014	241,012		
	15,480	17,890	17,820	17,290	18,000	-	-	-	-	331,000	424,000	507,000	525,000	311,000		
<u>EUROPE</u>																
Austria.....	401	293	370	370	373	32.6	24.3	35.1	33.8	40.2	13,087	7,127	13,000	12,500		
Belgium 2/.....	74	198	218	222	231	48.2	47.4	56.4	58.4	3,570	9,388	12,400	12,520	13,500		
Denmark.....	946	1,079	1,283	1,401	1,543	55.9	59.6	63.3	65.5	52,881	64,345	81,160	97,880	101,000		
Finland.....	280	346	320	380	440	24.6	28.2	30.3	30.3	7,900	8,500	10,000	10,800	15,000		
France.....	1,897	2,019	2,518	2,656	2,997	27.9	26.0	30.4	29.9	34.8	53,004	52,500	76,450	79,20	104,190	
Western Germany 2/.....	2,005	1,288	1,640	1,747	1,948	39.4	34.0	48.7	46.2	48.8	79,000	43,740	79,870	80,710	95,140	
Greece.....	525	453	516	531	530	17.8	16.2	20.5	18.5	22.4	9,365	7,359	10,560	9,800	11,870	
Ireland.....	118	147	167	225	189	45.8	45.8	49.1	51.6	54.3	6,739	8,200	11,620	9,800	9,870	
Italy.....	475	603	621	626	618	20.9	15.7	20.0	19.5	23.1	9,950	9,467	12,420	12,190	14,300	
Netherlands.....	107	139	160	172	255	51.5	51.4	60.3	65.0	49.4	5,934	7,147	9,650	11,180	12,600	
Norway.....	143	99	135	158	198	38.2	40.5	41.7	43.0	49.3	5,671	4,014	5,630	6,790	9,760	
Portugal.....	320	322	378	378	383	12.8	11.9	16.6	16.1	16.0	4,100	3,835	6,280	6,070	6,120	
Spain.....	4,549	3,979	3,815	3,900	-	8/	21.3	21.0	25.8	-	8/	97,059	83,528	98,425	102,330	-
Sweden.....	252	226	272	377	468	39.5	36.5	41.9	40.1	46.4	9,252	11,400	15,100	21,700	-	
Switzerland.....	13	66	48	59	61	33.1	41.6	45.8	47.8	45.1	2,200	2,745	2,820	2,750	-	
United Kingdom.....	934	2,120	1,908	2,281	2,221	39.2	43.3	47.4	47.8	50.5	36,596	91,895	90,490	108,920	112,250	
Yugoslavia.....	1,045	-	-	-	-	18.0	-	-	-	18,800	-	-	-	-		
Estimated total 2/.....	14,100	14,370	15,440	16,550	17,680	-	-	-	-	413,000	428,000	548,000	597,000	639,000		
Other Europe, estimated to total 2/.....	9,210	7,630	8,030	8,420	8,250	-	-	-	-	253,000	173,000	207,000	208,000	-		
All Europe, estimated total 2/.....	23,310	22,200	23,470	26,970	25,730	-	-	-	-	666,000	600,000	755,000	805,000	825,000		
U.S.S.R. (Europe & Asia).....	26,600	19,800	-	-	-	16.0	13.7	-	-	425,000	272,000	-	-	-		

years known refer to years of harvest in this Northern Hemisphere. Harvests of northern Hemisphere countries are combined with those of the Southern Hemisphere which immediately follows, thus, the crop harvested in 1953 is combined with preliminary forecasts for the Southern Hemisphere harvests which begin late in 1953 and end early in 1954. 2/ Figures refer to harvested areas as far as possible. 3/ Yield per acre calculated from production data shown, except for incomplete periods.

Revised estimates for Northern Hemisphere countries, for Southern Hemisphere countries, for Northern Hemisphere totals, which in the case of production, are rounded to millions, include allowances for any missing data for countries not shown, 6/ Data for individual years shown are not strictly comparable with averages shown, since recent estimates exclude data for farms of less than 2.5 acres. 7/ Average of less than 5 years.

Figure for 1953 only. 2/ Comprises Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary, Poland, and Romania. 10/ Estimates for Syria and Lebanon not shown separately during this period. 11/ Figures shown during this period are not strictly comparable with earlier figures shown, but were included in estimated total for Asia.

Foreign Agricultural Services. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of offices research or other information. Prewar estimates for countries having changed boundaries have been adjusted to conform to present boundaries.

OATS: Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries, year of harvest, averages 1935-39 and 1945-49, annual 1951-53 1/2

Continent and country	Acreage 2/		Yield per acre 3/		Production	
	Average	1945-49	1951	1952	Average	1953 4/
NORTH AMERICA						
Canada 5/	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Mexico	13,246:	12,021:	11,897:	11,062:	9,830:	1935-39 1945-49
United States	29:	108:	202:	36,525:	38,422:	1951 1952 1953 4/
Estimated total 6/	35,761:	40,184:	52,310:	28,630:	29,290:	1945-49 1951 1952 1953 4/
	49,040:	52,310:	59,690:	49,390:	-	1951 1952 1953 4/
EUROPE						
Austria	686:	534:	544:	545:	544:	1935-39 1945-49
Belgium 7/	548:	518:	403:	409:	400:	1951 1952 1953 4/
Denmark	932:	822:	677:	-	601:	1945-49 1951 1952 1953 4/
Finland	1,030:	931:	1,175:	1,225:	1,250:	1945-49 1951 1952 1953 4/
France	8,089:	6,110:	5,624:	5,511:	5,622:	1945-49 1951 1952 1953 4/
Western Germany	3,270:	2,892:	2,860:	2,748:	2,606:	8/ 1945-49 1951 1952 1953 4/
Greece	350:	312:	377:	368:	243:	1945-49 1951 1952 1953 4/
Ireland	571:	819:	650:	-	640:	1945-49 1951 1952 1953 4/
Italy	1,062:	1,138:	1,142:	1,148:	1,142:	1945-49 1951 1952 1953 4/
Luxembourg	65:	54:	51:	49:	44-8	1945-49 1951 1952 1953 4/
Netherlands	360:	378:	376:	386:	371:	1945-49 1951 1952 1953 4/
Norway	212:	192:	191:	178:	161:	1945-49 1951 1952 1953 4/
Portugal	865:	914:	790:	750:	770:	1945-49 1951 1952 1953 4/
Spain	9/	1,248:	1,566:	1,550:	1,483:	1945-49 1951 1952 1953 4/
Sweden	1,641:	1,300:	1,237:	1,274:	1,253:	1945-49 1951 1952 1953 4/
Switzerland	28:	86:	60:	65:	68:	1945-49 1951 1952 1953 4/
United Kingdom	2,430:	3,443:	2,857:	2,882:	2,841:	1945-49 1951 1952 1953 4/
Yugoslavia	892:	-	-	-	-	1945-49 1951 1952 1953 4/
Estimated total 6/	24,380:	22,960:	21,460:	21,360:	20,920:	-
Other Europe, estimated						
total 10/	11,110:	9,290:	9,620:	9,580:	9,470:	-
Estimated total, all Europe 6/	36,090:	32,250:	30,990:	30,390:	-	-
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia)	49,500:	35,100:	-	-	-	23.5 20.5

<u>ASIA</u>																				
Syria.....	11/	24:	22:	-	-	-	-	11/	27.6:	26.1:	-	-	11/	66.2:	57.4:	-	-	-	-	
Turkey.....	636:	642:	762:	-	880:	788:	26.6:	21.8:	31.6:	31.7:	36.1:	16,893:	14,000:	24,110:	-	-	-	-	-	
China.....	2,600:	2,365:	-	-	-	-	3/	23.1:	21.7:	-	-	8/	60,000:	51,335:	-	-	-	-	28,450	
Japan.....	310:	227:	193:	203:	-	215:	37.0:	28.3:	50.0:	46.8:	45.2:	11,381:	6,431:	9,650:	-	-	-	-	-	
Korea.....	8/	242:	-	4,310:	-	4,480:	4,470:	11.2:	-	-	-	8/	2,718:	-	-	-	-	-	9,710	
Estimated total 6/.....	4,010:	3,930:	4,310:	4,480:	4,470:	-	-	-	-	-	-	96,000:	84,000:	105,000:	110,000:	105,000:	105,000:	105,000:		
<u>AFRICA</u>																				
Algeria.....	465:	420:	426:	448:	420:	23.4:	18.3:	20.9:	21.9:	20.2:	10,859:	7,694:	8,910:	-	-	-	-	-	-	
French Morocco.....	104:	93:	136:	141:	-	26.5:	25.0:	24.7:	30.0:	-	2,751:	2,376:	3,360:	-	-	-	-	-	8,700	
Tunisia.....	84:	70:	67:	52:	-	19.9:	13.7:	20.6:	16.0:	-	1,674:	958:	1,380:	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Union of South Africa.....	544:	756:	-	1,370:	-	18/	12.8:	11.1:	-	-	6,966:	8,415:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Estimated total 6/.....	1,220:	1,370:	1,370:	1,360:	1,320:	-	-	-	-	-	23,000:	20,000:	23,000:	24,000:	23,000:	23,000:	23,000:	23,000:		
<u>SOUTH AMERICA</u>																				
Argentina.....	1,974:	1,709:	1,033:	2,360:	-	25.4:	28.0:	29.2:	36.7:	-	50,182:	47,782:	30,200:	87,430:	-	-	-	-	-	
Chile.....	279:	216:	244:	50:	-	27.5:	24.6:	31.3:	29.2:	-	7,570:	5,210:	7,640:	7,300:	-	-	-	-	-	
Uruguay.....	213:	172:	131:	143:	-	14.6:	16.5:	19.8:	18.6:	-	3,100:	2,600:	2,600:	2,740:	-	-	-	-	-	
Estimated total 6/.....	2,620:	2,130:	1,450:	2,190:	-	-	-	-	-	-	52,000:	57,000:	41,000:	98,000:	-	-	-	-	-	
<u>OCEANIA</u>																				
Australia.....	1,593:	1,860:	2,365:	2,764:	2,330:	14.7:	17.9:	18.2:	19.7:	19.5:	23,351:	33,249:	43,132:	54,530:	45,400	-	-	-	-	
New Zealand.....	63:	61:	48:	49:	-	56.2:	60.1:	64.4:	57.3:	-	3,539:	3,669:	3,090:	2,810:	-	-	-	-	-	
Total.....	1,656:	1,921:	2,411:	2,813:	2,380:	-	-	-	-	-	26,890:	36,918:	46,222:	57,344:	47,400	-	-	-	-	
Estimated world total 6/.....	144,010:	129,010:	126,260:	129,120:	127,150:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

^{11/} Years shown refer to years of harvest in the Northern Hemisphere. Harvests of Northern Hemisphere countries are combined with those of the Southern Hemisphere which immediately follow; thus the crop harvested in the Northern Hemisphere in 1953 is combined with preliminary forecasts for the Southern Hemisphere harvests which begin late in 1953 and end early in 1954. ^{2/} Figures refer to harvested areas as far as possible. ^{3/} Yield per acre calculated from production data shown, except for incomplete periods. ^{4/} Preliminary estimates for Northern Hemisphere countries for Southern Hemisphere, preliminary forecasts based largely on acreage and weather conditions to date. ^{5/} Production and yield reported in bushels of 34 pounds. ^{6/} Estimated totals, which in the case of production are rounded to millions, include allowances for any missing data for countries shown and for other producing countries not shown. ^{7/} Data for individual years shown are not strictly comparable with averages shown, since recent estimates exclude data for farms of less than 2.5 acres. ^{8/} Average of less than 5 years. ^{9/} Figure for 1935 only. ^{10/} Comprises Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Eastern Germany, Hungary, Poland, and Romania. ^{11/} Includes estimate for Lebanon, and is, therefore, not strictly comparable with estimates shown for later years.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of United States Foreign Service officers, results of office research, or other information. Prewar estimates for countries having changed boundaries have been adjusted to conform to present boundaries.

In Africa the 1953 harvest was a little below the 1952 production of both barley and oats. The barley estimate of 145 million bushels, though 5 million below the large 1952 outturn was 20 percent above the prewar average. The oats crop is of minor importance in Africa. The current estimate of 23 million bushels is at the prewar level.

The outturn in South America is somewhat smaller than the 1952 harvest for both barley and oats. The current barley estimate of 62 million bushels is 63 percent above the prewar average. No official estimates are available for Argentina, the ranking producer of the area, but private estimates place barley at about 39 million bushels, compared with the record crop of 55 million reported for last season. If the crop turns out that large it would be a near-record harvest even though it is considerably smaller than the unprecedented 1952 harvest. Production of oats in South America is estimated at 66 million bushels, compared with the record 98 million bushels last year. Production in Argentina is estimated at about 55 million bushels. Again, this would be one of the largest crops of record though sharply below the large 1952 harvest.

Barley and oats in Australia are both below the high level of a year ago. Barley is currently estimated at 32 million bushels, compared with 39 million last year and is more than double the average of 13 million. Estimates place oats at about 48 million bushels. This is 16 percent below the 1952 crop, but 78 percent above the prewar average. This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Foreign Agricultural Service Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U.S. Foreign Service reports.

HAITIAN SISAL PRODUCTION LOW

Estimated production of sisal in Haiti in the October-September year 1952-53 is 41.7 million pounds compared with 50.5 in the preceding year, according to reports of Foreign Service officers in Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

Acreage devoted to plantation-grown sisal decreased to 57,970 acres at the end of September from 58,497 acres at the end of December 1952. An estimated 15,728 acres were harvested in the first 6 months of 1953. The present area of peasant-grown sisal is believed to be considerably less than the 30,000 acres estimated in past years. Cutting is reported at only about 50 percent of former acreage.

The lower prices of sisal in the world market affected Haitian sisal growers adversely. Many marginal producers are shifting to more profitable crops. Large plantation growers are seeking more efficient production methods. Some are introducing field machinery and new decortication facilities to improve the quality of their output. Production in the past year was somewhat less than had been expected because of damage from a long dry period in 1953.

Exports of sisal from Haiti in 1952-53 were approximately 44.0 million pounds, valued at \$4.7 million, compared with 57.3 million pounds, valued at \$10.3 million, in 1951-52. Because of the importance of sisal as an export product, the decrease in its export total is of importance to the Haitian economy.

Local consumption of sisal is relatively small. About 272,000 pounds were used in 1952 in the local handicraft industry, for rope-making, and for minor products. Consumption in 1953 is believed to have been somewhat larger because of a substantial increase in the tourist trade. Sisal handicraft articles are sold to tourists.

Stocks of plantation sisal at the end of June 1953 were about 3.32 million pounds compared with 3.04 million on December 31, 1952. There was considerable shift, however, in the proportion of grades. Line fiber stocks decreased from 2.56 to 1.45 million pounds or from 84 percent of the total to 44 percent of the total. Tow increased from 24,000 to 140,000 pounds, and flume waste increased from 450,000 pounds to 1,728,000 pounds. Tow and flume waste together comprised only 16 percent of total stocks at the end of 1952, but had increased to 56 percent by the end of June 1953. Stocks of peasant grown sisal decreased in the same period from 26,000 to 15,000 pounds.

While the outlook is not too encouraging for the Haitian sisal industry, most producers are continuing to maintain planting and harvesting. A factory to produce sisal bags is expected to be in operation during 1954 and to furnish a market for some of the crop. Current prices are believed locally to be low enough to influence production to a considerable extent if they change as much as 1 or 2 cents either way.

COLOMBIA'S SUPPLY OF EDIBLE FATS AND OILS UP SLIGHTLY

Colombia's 1953 supply of fats and oils for food purposes is estimated at 58,400 short tons, an increase of 5 percent from the preceding year, reports the American Embassy, Bogota. Domestic production of edible vegetable oils of 12,100 tons was up slightly from 1952 while lard output was about the same at 16,500 tons. Imports in 1953 were reported preliminarily at 27,600 tons of edible vegetable fats and oils and 2,200 tons of lard against 23,530 and 4,400 tons, respectively, in 1952.

PERU'S OUTPUT OF EDIBLE FATS AND OILS UNCHANGED

Production of edible fats and oils from domestic raw materials in Peru in 1953 is estimated at 26,500 short tons or the same as in 1952, reports the American Embassy, Lima. Edible vegetable oils, primarily cottonseed, made up 20,500 tons of the 1953 output, and the remainder was lard.

Imports of edible fats and oils in 1953 were expected to consist of 11,000 tons of lard and 880 tons of vegetable oils against 12,272 and 839 tons, respectively, in 1952. The bulk of the lard imported into Peru comes from the United States. In 1952 the United States exported 11,439 tons of lard to Peru and 7,400 tons in the first 10 months of 1953. Peru exported about 110 tons of lard in both 1952 and 1953. Total consumption of edible fats and oils in 1953 is estimated at about 38,300 tons, or slightly below the preceding year.

FINAL OFFICIAL ESTIMATE OF INDIAN JUTE PRODUCTION LOW

Jute production in India in 1953 was only 1,250 million pounds from 1,196,000 acres, according to the official All-India Final Estimate. The partially revised estimate for 1952 reports 1,842 million pounds from 1,817,000 acres. The decrease of 32 percent in production and 34 percent in acreage was due principally to the discouraging effects of lower prices at planting time. Weather at that time also was unfavorable.

Growing weather throughout the season was generally better than in 1952. More favorable weather together with some marginal areas out of production resulted in a 3-percent increase in the over-all average yield per acre.

The greatest decrease in acreage was in West Bengal where the area was only 535,000 acres compared with 820,000 in the preceding year. Production fell to 599.2 million pounds from 945.2 million.

Bihar was second with 303,000 acres and 240.4 million bales compared with the previous year's crop of 460,000 acres and 351.6 million bales. Assam ranked third in acreage and third in decrease in acreage but ranked second in total production and fourth from the greatest decrease in production. The current crop was reported at 322.8 million pounds from 257,000 acres, compared with 370.0 million pounds in 1952 from 317,000 acres. The average yield per acre actually increased from 1,167 to 1,256 pounds per acre.

Average yields vary widely among the separate states. Assam ranked first in 1953 with 1,256 pounds per acre, and West Bengal second with 1,120 pounds per acre. An average of 875 pounds per acre was obtained in Orissa, 815 in Uttar Pradesh, 793 in Bihar, and only 152 in Tripura. Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, and Tripura harvested only 59,000 acres, 27,000 acres, and 15,000 acres, respectively.

In regard to total Indian production of jute, trade estimates usually vary somewhat from the official estimates. Trade circles have reported estimates ranging around 1,400 million pounds for the 1953 crop.